

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 075626
ORIGIN AF-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 075626

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDIP, CASC, NI

SUBJECT: AIG CASE

REF: LAGOS 3737

1. SHELPH OF AIG INFORMED AF/W THAT IN VIEW OF THE DETAINMENT OF EGBE AND LEFEVRE (REFTEL) AIG WILL SEND

ABOUZEID THE CHAIRMAN OF AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIFE AND PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF AIG, AND BROWER, AIG'S COUNSEL FROM WHITE AND CASE, TO LAGOS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. ABOUZEID WILL ATTEND A SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING OF THE AIIC. LEFEVRE'S DETENTION MEANS THAT A DIRECTOR REPRESENTING AIG IS NECESSARY TO VOTE AIG'S SHARES.

2. BROWER WILL EXAMINE THE LEGAL PROBLEMS WHICH LED TO LEFEVRE'S DETENTION. BOTH BROWER AND ABOUZEID WILL PROBABLY SEEK AN APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO PRESENT THE FIRM'S COMPROMISE PROPOSALS TO THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT.
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3. SHELPH HAS ASKED US TO SUGGEST THE NAMES OF AMERICANS OR NIGERIANS WITH ACCESS TO THE SENIOR RANKS OF THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT WHO MIGHT BE RETAINED BY THE AIG ON THEIR BEHALF. SHELPH INFORMS US THAT DAVID MORSE, WHOSE

PARTNER (SURREY) HAS WORKED WITH AND FOR AIG, HAS

VOLUNTEERED HIS SERVICES. AIG IS ALSO CONSIDERING ASKING GABARINO, THE PRESIDENT OF THE NIGERIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, TO GO TO LAGOS AND SPEAK ON THEIR BEHALF. AIG IS IMPRESSED BY THE FACT THAT GABARINO HAS HAD ACCESS TO OBASANJO IN THE PAST. WE HAVE SPOKEN HIGHLY TO AIG OF DAVID MORSE, WHO HAS DONE EXCELLENT WORK IN OTHER WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES, BUT COULD NOT ANSWER AIG'S QUESTION ABOUT HOW WELL CONNECTED HE IS WITH THE PRESENT NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS SOONEST.

4. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENTS REGARDING INFLUENTIAL NIGERIANS WHO MIGHT BE OF HELP TO THE AIG. AMONG THE NAMES THAT HAVE COME TO OUR ATTENTION ARE CHIEF ADEBAYO KUKU, THE COUNSEL FOR MOBIL, AND GODFREY AMACHREE.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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